Incorporation of a Comprehensive Petroleum Emergency Plan Into the Wisconsin Energy Assurance Plan

Request for Applications

Issue Date: Friday, December 16, 2011

Application Due Date: Monday, January 9, 2012, 12:00 PM CST

Wisconsin State Energy Office

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Background

The Wisconsin State Energy Office (SEO) is seeking proposals for an entity to assist the SEO in expanding the Wisconsin Energy Assurance Plan (EAP) to include a comprehensive petroleum emergency plan.

The Wisconsin EAP provides state energy stakeholders with a guide to managing an emergency energy shortage. The current EAP addresses: roles and relationships among federal, state, and local regional authorities; petroleum shortage plans; emergency electrical failure procedures; natural gas emergency procedures; plans for homeland security; disaster and emergency plans; continuity and operations plans. It also contains information about major energy use sectors and energy provider categories. The plan examines some of the vulnerabilities and provides information about how energy providers manage shortage. It also suggests mitigation measures that the state might apply to various types and intensities of shortage. This plan is based on current information, but these data are dynamic. While patterns of response are usually consistent over time, details change regularly. The EAP is designed to help responders make decisions that will help the citizens of the state cope with shortage and maintain as much normalcy as possible.

The SEO is responsible for housing and maintaining Wisconsin's EAP. Pursuant to Public Law 101-440, states are required to regularly update their Energy Assurance Plans, and the SEO is currently in the process of updating the EAP. As part of this process, the SEO will be expanding the petroleum section of the EAP. Volatility of oil prices and an increasing amount of instability in oil-producing nations poses a greater degree of risk for oil disruptions than in past years. Therefore, Wisconsin's EAP will be greatly strengthened by inclusion of a more detailed discussion of petroleum inventories, decision-making on petroleum allocations, communications channels between refiners/wholesalers/retailers and a discussion of what the Governor needs to make decisions in a situation where petroleum supplies become disrupted.

Objectives

The objectives of incorporating a Comprehensive Petroleum Emergency Plan into the Wisconsin EAP are to provide a written document that:

- Outlines the information the Governor and his staff will need on the first day of a petroleum disruption, understand questions the Governor is likely to ask, and identify a responsible party for answering those questions
- Quantifies the retail and wholesale petroleum storage capacity in the state—gasoline, diesel, and other products
- Provides information regarding how refiners' allocation systems work, evaluate their fairness and
 whether they are designed to get maximum product into the state; and describe the allocation
 appeal process and potential allocation set-asides for emergency government, national guard,
 police and fire services, hospitals, schools, etc.
- Describes the federal regulatory process for the refiners' allocation system, if any
- Makes recommendations of ways for large wholesalers and petroleum marketers to conserve fuel, with descriptions of past successful efforts, if any
- Understand petroleum marketers' and large wholesaler/terminal operators' biggest concerns about petroleum shortages
- Understands and evaluates the ramifications of varying degrees of shortage; present options to prevent lines for petroleum fuel during shortages, if possible
- Performs a risk assessment on the effect of various interruption scenarios on current infrastructure and identifies action steps that would reduce the risk or economic significance of a shortage event
- Outlines the proper role for government in a crisis involving petroleum shortage
- Evaluates whether there should exist a national strategic gasoline or finished products reserve similar to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (crude oil)
- Evaluates the positive and negative aspects of Wisconsin's price-gouging law under emergency scenarios
- Identifies aspects of the existing pipeline and terminal infrastructure that create obstacles for effectively moving product into the state
- Compiles data on the percentage of gasoline originating at refineries that currently supply Wisconsin
- Analyzes the effect of anti-trust laws on the ability/willingness of refiners to cooperate during an emergency
- Evaluates the potential to bring product in over bodies of water (Lake Michigan, Mississippi River) in emergency situations
- Identifies the most effective means of communicating to the public the need to conserve fuel

Award Information

- 1. Type of Award The SEO anticipates awarding a grant under this program announcement.
- Maximum Award Size The SEO will award a maximum of \$40,000 for a new award under this announcement.
- 3. Expected Number of Awards The SEO will make 1 award under this announcement.
- 4. Period of Performance The SEO anticipates making an award that will conclude by May 25, 2012.
- **5. Reporting—**The Awardee will be required to submit monthly status reports to the SEO and a final written document by May 25, 2012.

Eligible Applicants

The type of applicant is unrestricted.

Eligible/Ineligible Expenses

Funding may be used to support staff time and associated research expenses, including training and/or seminar expenses. Lobbying expenses are ineligible. All expenses will be reviewed and approved by the SEO. Expenses incurred before the grant contract is signed will not be eligible for reimbursement. Budgets will be reviewed prior to an award (via the Budget Justification Form) and are subject to negotiation with the SEO.

Cost-Sharing

There are no cost-sharing requirements under this program.

Application Guidelines

Three (3) hard copies <u>and</u> one (1) electronic copy are due by Monday, January 9, 2012, 12:00 (noon) CST. Any applications received after this deadline will not be considered. Below is the list of documents to be included as part of the application and the order requested.

1. Cover Page (attached)

2. Project Narrative:

The project narrative must not exceed 5 pages, including, table of contents, charts, graphs, maps, photographs, and other pictorial presentations, when printed using standard 8.5" by 11" paper with 1 inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right). EVALUATORS WILL ONLY REVIEW THE NUMBER OF PAGES SPECIFIED IN THE PRECEDING SENTENCE. The font must not be smaller than 11 point. Do not include any Internet addresses (URLs) that provide information necessary to review the application. Narrative should also thoroughly address the review criteria in the Application Review Section below.

3. Budget Justification Form (attached):

You must justify the costs proposed in each Object Class Category/Cost Classification category (e.g., identify key persons and personnel categories and the estimated costs for each person or category; provide a list of equipment and cost of each item; describe purpose of proposed travel, number of travelers and number of travel days; list general categories of supplies and amount for each category; and provide any other information you wish to support your budget).

4. Personnel

List all personnel and provide resumes of staff who will be working on the grant, include activities and their experience as it relates to the proposed project. Establish a key staff member to coordinate grant activities and serve as a point of contact for this project.

5. Letters of Reference (optional, but considered if submitted)

Application Due Date

Applications must be received by Monday, January 9, 2012, 12:00 PM (noon) CST. Applicants are encouraged to submit their application well before the deadline. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED FOR AN AWARD.

Application Review Information

- 1. Initial Review Criteria Prior to a comprehensive merit evaluation, the SEO will perform an initial review to determine that (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required by the announcement has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied; and (4) the proposed project is responsive to the objectives of the funding opportunity announcement.
- 2. **Merit Review** The SEO will select a review panel to evaluate applications using the following factors. The SEO will then apply a rating, or score to the application based on the review.

Overall Evaluation Factors:

- Technical Merit All applications must provide sufficient information to demonstrate the applicant's technical capability to successfully undertake the proposed work.
- Planning and Capabilities Provides evidence of a clear and comprehensive plan with a likelihood of achieving success.
- Relevance of the Application to Program Objectives
- All proposals must also provide a complete and detailed budget, which includes supporting narratives.

Specific Evaluation Factors:

- Ability to achieve the objectives. Applicants must demonstrate that their organizational and staff experience will assist them in achieving the objectives. Applicants may not sub-contract activities to achieve the specific objectives.
- Data Collection: Applicants must gather and manage a significant amount of quantitative and qualitative data pertaining to petroleum fuel availability. Each applicant must provide a description of how that information will be managed and how the data will be accessed.
- Reporting: Applicants must agree to submit monthly reports to the SEO on activities of the program on request.
- Other Information Applicants may provide additional supplementary information they
 believe demonstrates the proposal meets the application criteria as set out in the program
 description.

Review and Selection Process

Grant applications are due by Monday, January 9, 2012 at 12:00 PM CST.

- Selection The SEO will consider the merit review recommendations of the review panel to make the final award decision.
- 2. Discussions and Award The SEO may enter into discussions with a selected applicant for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to: (1) the budget is not appropriate or reasonable for the requirement; (2) only a portion of the application is selected for award; (3) the SEO needs additional information to determine that the recipient is capable of complying with the requirements or (4) special terms and conditions are required. Failure to resolve satisfactorily the issues identified by the SEO will preclude award to the applicant.
- 3. ANTICIPATED NOTICE OF SELECTION AND AWARD DATES The SEO anticipates notifying the selected applicant in the third week of January 2012 and making awards by the end of January 2012.

Contract Terms and Funding

A contract between the grantee and the SEO will cover the scope of work, timetable and budget. Contracts cover the time period between the date the SEO signs the contract and May 25, 2012. Grant payment will be distributed on a reimbursement basis, in accordance with State of Wisconsin purchasing rules.

Contact Information

Questions will only be accepted via email at seo@wisconsin.gov. Please put the title of the RFA in the subject line. RFA questions and answers will be posted to the SEO website at www.energyindependence.wi.gov.

Application Submittal

Three (3) hard copies <u>and</u> one (1) electronic copy are due by Monday, January 9, 2012, 12:00 (noon) CST. Anything arriving after 12:00 PM (noon) CST will not be considered. Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to the address below.

Mail Application to:

Nina Carlson Senior Policy Analyst & Federal Liaison Wisconsin State Energy Office 201 W. Washington Ave., 3rd Floor Madison, WI 53703

Email Application to:

SEO@wisconsin.gov

Incorporation of a Comprehensive Petroleum Emergency Plan Into the Wisconsin EAP Cover Page

		Application Submission Date:			
Organization Name:					
Primary Contact Name (First,	Primary Contact Name (First, Last):				
Primary Contact Title:					
Mailing Address:					
City:	Zip:	County:			
Phone:	Fax:	Email:			
Employer ID Number (W-9) :		Amount Requested: \$			
Signature:		Date:			

Submit three (3) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of the completed application by Monday, January 9, 2012, 12:00 PM (noon) CST to:

Hard Copies:

Nina Carlson Senior Policy Analyst & Federal Liaison Wisconsin State Energy Office 201 W. Washington Ave., 3rd Floor Madison, WI 53703

Electronic Copies: seo@wisconsin.gov

For Internal Use Only				
Date Received: Reviewed by: Score: □ A □ R				
□ Letter Sent Date:	Contract Start Date:	Contract End Date:		

Incorporation of a Comprehensive Petroleum Emergency Plan Into the Wisconsin EAP Budget Justification Form

1. PE	.RSO	NNEL
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		Time	Total	SEO		Work
Position Title	Pay Rate	(est hours)	Compensation	Requested	Match	Description
	\$		\$	\$	\$	

2. FRINGE

	Total		Total	SEO		
Position	Compensation	Rate	Fringe	Requested	Match	Rate Basis
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	

3. TRAVEL

	In-state or		SEO		
Description	Out-of-State	Total Cost	Requested	Match	Basis of Cost
		\$	\$	\$	

4. SUPPLIES

		SEO		
Description	Total Cost	Requested	Match	Basis of Cost
	\$	\$	\$	

5. EQUIPMENT

		SEO		
Description	Total Cost	Requested	Match	Basis of Cost
	\$	\$	\$	

6. OTHER

		SEO		
Description	Total Cost	Requested	Match	Basis of Cost
	\$	\$	\$	

7. INDIRECT COSTS

		SEO		
Description	Total Cost	Requested	Match	Basis of Cost
	\$	\$	\$	

SUMMARY

Category	SEO Requested	Match	Total
Personnel	\$	\$	\$
Fringe	\$	\$	\$
Travel	\$	\$	\$
Supplies	\$	\$	\$
Equipment	\$	\$	\$
Other	\$	\$	\$
Total Direct Costs	\$	\$	\$
Indirect	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$	\$	\$